

Tom Miller Dam and Lake Austin

OWNER

City of Austin. Built and operated by the Lower Colorado River Authority under lease expiring December 31, 2007.

ENGINEER (Design)

Lower Colorado River Authority.
Moran, Proctor and Freeman were consultants.

LOCATION

On the Colorado River in Travis County, inside the western city limits of Austin.

DRAINAGE AREA

38,240 square miles, of which 11,900 is probably noncontributing. Runoff is largely regulated by upstream storage and power-plant operation.

DAM

Type	Concrete gravity overflow, piers and slab with gated spillway, and rock fill sections
Length	1,590 ft
Height (top non-overflow section)	85 ft
Height (top of bridge)	100 ft

SPILLWAY (uncontrolled)

Type	Concrete ogee
Length	458 ft
Crest elevation	492.8 ft above msl

SPILLWAY (gated)

Type	Concrete ogee
Length (net)	459 ft
Crest elevation	480.8 ft above msl for the 12-ft gates
Control	5 tainter gates, each 51 by 12 ft
	4 tainter gates, each 51 by 18 ft
	Actual vertical dimension of gates are 14.7 and 19.85 ft

OUTLET WORKS

None. Water releases made through turbine operation.

POWER FEATURES

Two generating units each, 7,500 kw capacity.
The turbines are automatic adjustable blade propeller-type.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

Certified Filing No. 330 June 30, 1914. Prior rights were said to extend back to 1890 when the first Austin Dam was started.

RESERVOIR DATA (Based on Lower Colorado River Authority survey made in 1939)

Capacity at elevation 492.8 ft above msl 21,000 acre-feet
Area at elevation 492.8 ft above msl 1,830 acres
Invert to penstock 462± ft above msl

GENERAL

Construction started original dam	November 5, 1890
Construction started present dam	July 5, 1938
Present dam completed	1939
Deliberate impoundment of water began	1939
Power unit in operation	March 31, 1940
Present dam dedicated	April 6, 1940
General contractor	Lower Colorado River Authority
Estimated cost of the project	\$3,479,309

